



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

Revised August 2, 2011

S. 538

A bill to amend the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act to reauthorize the act

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on July 13, 2011*

SUMMARY

S. 538 would authorize appropriations through 2017 for grants and other activities carried out under the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$30 million over the 2012-2016 period and \$9 million after 2016. Enacting S. 538 would not affect revenues or direct spending; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 538 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2012- 2016
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Authorization Level	7	7	7	7	7	33
Estimated Outlays	5	6	6	6	7	30

Note: Amounts do not sum to totals because of rounding.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 538 will be enacted near the end of 2011 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for this program.

S. 538 would authorize the appropriation of \$6.5 million a year to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Program through 2017. The program is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and supports research and conservation grants to protect certain species of birds. Based on information from USFWS, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost \$30 million over the 2012-2016 period and \$9 million after 2016.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 538 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

This revised cost estimate supersedes a CBO cost estimate transmitted on July 22, 2011, for S. 538 as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on July 13, 2011. CBO previously estimated additional discretionary spending of \$36 million over the 2012-2016 period. That earlier estimate did not reflect a committee-approved amendment to the bill that specifies the annual authorization of \$6.5 million, as shown in this revised estimate.

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